



Saguaro National Park News Release

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Saguaro National Park's Restoration Plan Finalized

Tucson, AZ – The environmental compliance process for Saguaro National Park's Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) is complete, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been signed by Sue E. Masica, Director of the National Park Service's Intermountain Region. The park thanks all those who participated in the process.

The Restoration Plan describes management actions to restore native vegetation and mitigate negative impacts to park lands from damage caused by fire, flood, invasive species, or other human causes. The EA, which was available for public review and comment for 30 days, includes an analysis of the proposed alternatives, and identifies and compares their potential environmental impacts. The FONSI took the assessment and public comments into account and accepted the preferred alternative, which includes all of the techniques the park has been using to date, and allows for aerial (helicopter) delivery of restoration treatments to sites that are not accessible by ground crews.

Interested public can view these documents on the park's website (<http://nps.gov/sagu>), the National Park Service's planning website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/SNPRPEA> or <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/SNPRPFONSI>), or by request at either park visitor center: Red Hills Visitor Center in the Tucson Mountain District (west), or Rincon Mountain Visitor Center in the Rincon Mountain District (east). Schedules for aerial treatments will also be posted on the park's website. For any questions, please contact Natasha Kline, Planning and Compliance Coordinator, at (520) 733-5171.

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